



## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The **Aruba Today Newspaper** announces that on Labor Day, that we will NOT be in circulation Monday, May 1st. We will be back on newsstands everywhere bright and early to serve our readers and advertisers first thing in the morning, on Tuesday, May 2nd.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all workers from all parts of the world, a **HAPPY LABOR DAY** from the **Aruba Today**— the **ONLY English Newspaper on Aruba!**



**ARUBA TODAY**

Aruba's **ONLY** English newspaper

Saturday  
April 29, 2023

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# Congress' anger at FBI shapes surveillance program's future

By **NOMAAN MERCHANT**  
and **ERIC TUCKER**  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Growing anger at the FBI from both parties in Congress has become a major hurdle for U.S. intelligence agencies fighting to keep their vast powers to collect foreign communications that often sweep up the phone calls and emails of Americans.

Key lawmakers say they won't vote to renew the programs under Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act that expire at the end of this year without major changes targeting the FBI. Many blame problems with how the FBI's special agents search for U.S. citizens using Section 702 — along with publicly revealed mistakes in other intelligence investigations by the bureau.



Continued on Page 3

The FBI seal is pictured in Omaha, Neb., Aug. 10, 2022.

Associated Press

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK

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## U.S. agency raises ‘serious concerns’ about tech visa lottery

By ELLIOT SPAGAT  
Associated Press

**BERKELEY, Calif. (AP)** — The number of applications for visas used in the technology industry soared for a second straight year, rais-

ing “serious concerns” that some are manipulating the system to gain an unfair advantage, authorities said Friday.

There were 780,884 applications for H-1B visas

in this year’s computer-generated lottery, up 61% from 483,927 last year, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services said in a message to “stakeholders.” Last year’s haul was up 57%



In this Aug. 17, 2018, file photo, people arrive before the start of a naturalization ceremony at the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Miami Field Office in Miami.

Associated Press

from 308,613 applications the year before.

Each year, up to 85,000 people are selected for H-1B visas, a mainstay for technology giants such as Amazon.com Inc., Google parent Alphabet Inc., Facebook parent Meta Platforms Inc. and International Business Machines Corp.

Last year, the government began requiring workers who won the lottery to sign affidavits stating they didn’t try to game the system by working with others to file multiple bids under different company names, even if there was no underlying employment offer.

By winning at least once, these companies could market their services to technology companies that wanted to fill positions but didn’t have visas, effectively becoming labor contractors.

“The large number of eligible registrations for beneficiaries with multiple eligible registrations — much larger

than in previous years — has raised serious concerns that some may have tried to gain an unfair advantage by working together to submit multiple registrations on behalf of the same beneficiary. This may have unfairly increased their chances of selection,” the agency wrote.

The agency said it has “undertaken extensive fraud investigations” based on lottery submissions from the last two years, denied some petitions and is “in the process” of referring some cases to federal prosecutors for possible crimes. The number of registrations tied to people who applied more than once rose to 408,891 this year from 165,180 last year and 90,143 the year before.

“We remain committed to deterring and preventing abuse of the registration process, and to ensuring only those who follow the law are eligible to file an H-1B cap petition,” the agency said. □

We owe the success of our island to the collective efforts of every individual who contributes their hard work towards the betterment of our community.

**Happy Labor Day**

This Labor Day, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you who strive to push Aruba forward.

**ARUBA** ARUBA TOURISM AUTHORITY

# Congress' anger at FBI shapes surveillance program's future

Continued from Front

Among the revelations since the law was last renewed in 2018: The bureau misled surveillance court judges in seeking to wiretap a 2016 campaign aide for former President Donald Trump, and agents didn't follow guidelines in searching Section 702 databases for the names of a congressman on the House Intelligence Committee, a local political party, and people of Middle Eastern descent.

Two successive chief judges of the primary U.S. surveillance court criticized the bureau in written opinions, with one saying the frequency of mistakes in the bureau's investigation of Russian election interference "calls into question whether information contained in other FBI applications is reliable."

The debate is of great consequence to U.S. intelligence officials, who argue that the law is perhaps their most critical tool to stopping terrorism, enemy spies, and cyberattacks. According to the intelligence community, 59% of the items in the briefing given daily to President Joe Biden last year featured information the National Security Agency captured under Section 702.

And the classified Pentagon documents leaked online in recent weeks make clear how much the U.S. relies on electronic snooping, with dozens of items on allies and foes alike sourced to what's known as "signals intelligence."

"Section 702 has kept American citizens safe and our U.S. service members abroad out of danger," said Rep. Mike Turner, the Ohio Republican who chairs the House Intelligence Committee, in a statement. "However, changes must be made in order to prevent further FBI misuse and abuse of this vital national security tool."

Reps. Pramila Jayapal, D-Wash., and Warren Davidson, R-Ohio, issued a joint statement in March saying the FBI was searching for



FBI Director Christopher Wray testifies before the House Appropriations subcommittee Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies budget hearing for Fiscal Year 2024, on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, April 27, 2023.

Americans "at an alarming scale" and calling for an overhaul of the program.

The FBI says it uses foreign communications for its national security investigations and tightly controls how agents access Americans' data. Bureau officials this week released a checklist their agents are supposed to use in conducting searches. They also have overhauled their computer systems and added new mandatory training for agents in December 2021. Searches likely to bring back 100 or more results must now be cleared first with an FBI attorney, and the deputy director must personally approve what the FBI calls "certain types of sensitive queries," including searches of U.S. public officials.

"Like any major institution, we have made mistakes," FBI Director Chris Wray testified before Congress in March. "To me, the mark of a leading organization is not whether it makes mistakes or not ... but whether or not we learn from those mistakes. And I think we have."

Rep. Jim Himes of Connecticut, the top Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, said he supported the FBI's changes and wanted them to be included in a renewed sur-

veillance law.

Himes argued some Republican critics were motivated by the investigations against Trump, including the search that the FBI conducted last year of his Florida residence.

"I think anger at the FBI has become an article of faith in the Republican conference," he said in an interview.

Under Section 702, the U.S. collects foreign communications without a warrant — and with the required participation of American telecom companies — to create databases that analysts can search for intelligence purposes. They can target foreigners outside the U.S. for collection.

Agencies cannot target American citizens or foreigners on U.S. soil, or go after a foreigner with the purpose of collecting a U.S. citizen's emails or phone calls.

The FBI disclosed that it conducted as many as 3.4 million searches of Section 702 data for Americans in 2021 — a figure that dropped sharply to 204,000 last year, according to an annual report released Friday by the U.S. Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

The FBI said it introduced new counting methods for Friday's report that lowered the 2021 and 2022 figures to

about 3 million and 110,000, respectively, by removing duplicative searches.

The bureau said it had run only 16 searches between December 2021 and November 2022 to seek evidence of a crime without a foreign intelligence purpose.

But civil liberties advocates have long argued that the program may violate the Fourth Amendment by giving the FBI warrantless access to vast amounts of Americans' communications.

Patrick Toomey, deputy director of the American Civil Liberties Union's National Security Project, said Section 702 has become "a domestic spying tool for the FBI."

"The rules are extraordinarily permissive in practice, and yet FBI agents still regularly violate them," Toomey said in an email. "Congress should require a warrant for these searches to protect Americans, because the FBI cannot be left to police itself." Some lawmakers also support requiring the FBI to get warrants for every search of Section 702 data. National security officials oppose a warrant requirement, saying it would flood courts with thousands of new cases and make many uses of the program impractical.

Majority Republicans on the House Intelligence Committee are instead pushing for new criminal penalties against agents who willfully provide false information to a surveillance court, according to multiple people familiar with their plans who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal deliberations.

That proposal is driven by a perception that the FBI won't punish agents who abuse their authorities and a concern from Republicans that the bureau and Wray won't answer their questions about disciplinary actions taken, said Rep. Chris Stewart, R-Utah.

"One thing that societies cannot sustain is when they feel they cannot trust their own law enforcement, their own intelligence agencies," he said. "We have to implement reforms to regain some of that trust."

A senior FBI official declined to say how many agents have been dismissed or disciplined for violations, but said the bureau had found that deliberate misconduct by agents was rare. The official spoke on condition of anonymity under ground rules set by the bureau.

Members of both parties have also discussed moving to extend the terms of judges on the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, which holds classified proceedings and approves wiretaps as well as the intelligence community's Section 702 rules each year.

They also want the court to transcribe all hearings for appeals and to expand the use of outside advocates — known as amicus curiae — who can oppose FBI requests before the court, the people said.

Lawmakers may push for a short extension into next year so they can complete a package of long-term changes. But the future of the program at present is uncertain.

Rep. Jason Crow, a Colorado Democrat who also sits on the committee, said that while he supports changes to the law, it was critical for Congress to keep it in place. □

# Bill allows DeSantis to run for president while governor

By **CURT ANDERSON**

**Associated Press**

Republican Ron DeSantis would not have to resign as Florida governor in order to run for president if he chooses under a bill given final approval Friday in by the GOP-dominated state Legislature.

The measure, attached to a much broader elections bill, would carve out an exemption to Florida law requiring anyone seeking office to resign from one they already hold after qualifying as a candidate. Only an officeholder running for U.S. president or vice president would not have to resign.

Supporters portrayed the bill as purely a clarification and not intended specifically for DeSantis, who has not yet announced a presidential bid but is widely expected to declare his candidacy for the Republican nomination in the coming weeks. The bill passed the state House 76-34 along party lines and now goes to DeSantis, who is expected to sign it into law.

"It is an individual office that is unique. It is the chief executive of our country," GOP Rep. Ralph Massullo said during House debate Friday. "This isn't just for our



**Florida Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis arrives at the Foreign Office to visit Britain's Foreign Secretary in London, Friday, April 28, 2023.**

governor, it's for anyone in politics."

Democrats called the effort a cynical attempt to clear the way for DeSantis to run while remaining as governor. His current term in Tallahassee would end in January 2027.

"We in this body are doing the governor's bidding," said Rep. Angela Nixon, a Democrat. "He needs to resign to run if he wants to run for president, period. Last time I checked, being

governor is a full-time job. Running for president takes a lot of work."

The bill, which makes a number of other changes to Florida election law, passed one day after a federal appeals court upheld a GOP-led election law that was enacted last year. That law was challenged as racially discriminatory by seeking to suppress Black votes, but a three-judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of

Appeals disagreed.

Among other things, it would tighten limits and increase fines for third-party voter registration organizations, impose more restrictions on mail ballots and shift responsibility for determining if a voter is eligible from the state to the individual.

Democrats contended the bill is another step to suppress votes of minorities and economically disadvantaged people to

benefit Republicans who already dominate state government and Florida's federal offices.

"We're back at it again, making it more difficult for people to register to vote. What we are doing with this bill is unnecessary," said Democratic Rep. Anna Eskamni. "It's really frustrating." Republicans, however, portrayed the measure as guaranteeing a legitimate vote, streamlining election operations and eliminating ambiguity in the law.

"There is no more sacred thing than our vote," said GOP Rep. John Snyder. "It should be easy to vote and hard to cheat."

The House also passed a proposal that would require a constitutional amendment to pass with at least 66.67% of the vote, up from 60% currently. That measure has to clear the Senate and then would go on the November 2024 ballot where it would require a 60% vote to be enacted. "We know in this crazy world today we are at greater risk of bad constitutional amendments," said the main sponsor, Republican Rep. Rick Roth. "We have to stand for our constitution." □

# New report blames airlines for most flight cancellations

By **DAVID KOENIG**

**AP Airlines Writer**

Congressional investigators said in a report Friday that an increase in flight cancellations as travel recovered from the pandemic was due mostly to factors that airlines controlled, including cancellations for maintenance issues or lack of a crew.

The Government Accountability Office also said airlines are taking longer to recover from disruptions such as storms. Surges in cancellations in late 2021 and early 2022 lasted longer than they did before the pandemic, the GAO said.

Much of the increase in airline-caused cancellations has occurred at budget

airlines, but the largest carriers have also made more unforced errors, according to government data.

Airlines have clashed with Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg over blame

for high rates of canceled and delayed flights in the past two years. Airlines argue that the government is at fault for not having enough air traffic controllers, while Buttigieg has

blamed the carriers.

The GAO report was requested by Republican leaders of the House Transportation Committee. The GAO said it examined flight data from January 2018 through April 2022 to understand why travelers suffered more delays and cancellations as travel began to recover from the pandemic.

The GAO said weather was the leading cause of cancellations in the two years before the pandemic, but the percentage of airline-caused cancellations began increasing in early 2021. From October through December 2021, airlines caused 60% or more of cancellations higher than at any time in 2018 or

2019.

At the time, airlines were understaffed. The airlines took \$54 billion in taxpayer money to keep employees on the job through the pandemic, but they reduced workers anyway by paying them incentives to quit.

As travel rebounded, the airlines struggled to replace thousands of departed workers. They now have more workers than in 2019 and the cancellation rate this year is lower than during the same period in 2019, according to data from tracking service Flight-Aware.

In 2019, Hawaiian Airlines and Alaska Airlines had the highest percentages of airline-caused cancellations, easily topping 50%. □



**A traveler looks at a flight board with delays and cancellations at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport in Arlington, Va., Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2023.**

**Associated Press**

## Brazil's Lula resumes recognition of Indigenous land areas

By CARLA BRIDI and FABIANO MAISONNAVE

**BRASÍLIA, Brazil (AP)** — Brazil President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva on Friday granted official recognition of nearly 800 square miles of Indigenous lands, following through on a campaign promise in a move that also protects critical Amazon rainforest from commercial exploitation.

Lula recognized six ancestral lands, with the largest two in the Amazon, the world's largest tropical forest and an important carbon sink that helps moderate climate change. The total area of recognized lands in the biome is 161,500 hectares (620 square miles).

The land remains under the federal government's jurisdiction, but the designation grants Indigenous peoples the right to use it in their traditional manner. Mining activities are prohibited, and commercial farming and logging require specific authorizations. Additionally, non-Indigenous individuals are forbidden from engaging in any economic activity on Indigenous lands.

Lula's action was welcomed by the Indigenous movement, but not without some frustration that it was limited in size. In January, his government had



**Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, center, stands between Indigenous Peoples Minister Sonia Guajajara, left, and National Indigenous Foundation President Joenia Wapichana at the closing of the annual Terra Livre, or Free Land Indigenous Encampment in Brasilia, Brazil, Friday, April 28, 2023.**

Associated Press

pledged to create 14 new territories in the short term. At an annual weeklong encampment of Indigenous people in capital Brasilia, Lula addressed a packed crowd that included workers from the federal government's Indigenous affairs agency, who chanted and held banners during the ceremony. The encampment itself includes hundreds of tents on the

city's main esplanade with Indigenous people of various ethnicities, gathering to dance, sing, sell handicrafts and hold political demonstrations.

"We are going to legalize Indigenous lands. It is a process that takes a little while, because it has to go through many hands," Lula said. "I don't want any Indigenous territory to be left without demarcation dur-

ing my government. That is the commitment I made to you."

Kleber Karipuna, executive coordinator at Indigenous people's organization Apib, called the demarcation a welcome shift after four years of threats and invasions targeting Indigenous territories under Lula's predecessor Jair Bolsonaro. "For us, it is a very significant process of restarting.

Of course, there are still other lands that can be advanced," he said.

Among lands that missed out was the Barra Velha territory of the Pataxó people in southern Bahia state. Renato Atxuab, a Pataxó leader, said "this government that we supported, that we helped build" must demarcate their land as soon as possible to prevent invasions by outsiders.

Already there are conflicts involving agribusiness and land-grabbers, he said, and drug traffickers have been moving in, too.

Atxuab said he has met with the Indigenous Peoples minister a newly created position under Lula's government but has not been given any date for his land's demarcation.

The largest new area is located in the Amazonas state. The Nadöb people's Uneixi Indigenous Territory has been expanded by 37% to 554,000 hectares (2,100 square miles) of primary rainforest. It is in a remote area from the main village, it takes four days to travel to the closest city in a low-powered motor boat, the most common mode of transportation in the region. "The demarcation will make the Nadöb people feel safe and protected within our territory. □

## Speedboat capsizes in west Indonesia; 11 dead and 1 missing

**PEKANBARU, Indonesia (AP)** — A speedboat carrying 74 people capsized in rough seas in western Indonesia, killing at least 11 and leaving one person missing, officials said Friday.

Many of the dead were women and children, said Nyoman Sidakarya, chief of the Pekanbaru Search and Rescue Agency. He said 62 people had been rescued, including some who were unconscious after drifting in the choppy waters for hours. They were hospitalized and were in stable condition, he said.

The Evelyn Calista 01 was carrying 68 passengers, mostly people returning from visits to their home-

towns to celebrate the Eid al-Fitr holiday with their families, and six crew mem-

bers, Sidakarya said. He revised the number of people on board from an initial

estimate of 78.

Television video showed people standing on an overturned boat trying to reach a fishing boat packed with survivors.

The boat sank Thursday afternoon about three hours after leaving Tembilahan, a town in Indragiri Hilir Regency in Riau province. It was bound for Tanjung Pinang in the Riau Islands chain, a 200-kilometer (125-mile) trip.

The cause of the sinking was still being investigated, but some survivors told authorities that the boat swayed suddenly and capsized after hitting a large log while traveling in strong winds, local police chief

Norhayat said.

Two tugboats and two inflatable boats battled high waves in the overnight darkness as they searched for survivors, said Norhayat, who uses a single name. He said a tugboat pulled the capsized boat to shore to ease the search efforts.

Boat tragedies are common in Indonesia, an archipelago of more than 17,000 islands, where ferries are often used as transport and safety regulations are sometimes ignored.

In 2018, an overcrowded ferry carrying about 200 people sank in a deep volcanic crater lake in North Sumatra province, killing 167 people. □



**In this photo released by Indonesian National Search and Rescue Agency (BASARNAS) on Friday, April 28, 2023, a rescuer scans the horizon during the search for victims of a sinking speedboat in Indragiri Hilir Regency, Indonesia.**

Associated Press

# Japan ocean policy vows tougher security amid China threat

By MARI YAMAGUCHI

Associated Press

**TOKYO (AP)** — Japan adopted a new five-year ocean policy on Friday that calls for stronger maritime security, including bolstering its coast guard's capability and cooperation with the military as China grows increasingly assertive in regional seas.

The new Basic Plan on Ocean Policy adopted by Prime Minister Fumio Kishida's Cabinet also says Japan must accelerate the development of autonomous underwater vehicles and remotely operated robots to strengthen its surveillance capability.

It cited a list of threats: Chinese coast guard ships' repeated intrusions into Japanese territorial waters, growing unauthorized maritime activity by "foreign survey boats" inside Japan's exclusive economic zone, increasing joint military exercises by China and Russia, and North Korea's repeated missile launches. "The situation in the ocean around Japan is increasingly tense," Kishida said at a policy meeting Friday. "It's time for us to unite our wisdom among the indus-



Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida walks on the Maritime Self Defense Force's helicopter carrier JS Izumo during an international fleet review in Sagami Bay, southwest of Tokyo, on Nov. 6, 2022.

Associated Press

try, academia and government for ocean policy reform or ocean transformation."

He also noted the need to better use maritime resources to achieve carbon neutrality.

The new ocean policy is in line with Japan's new national security strategy that Kishida's government adopted in December in

a major break from the self-defense-only principle that the country has maintained under its postwar pacifist constitution.

The new strategy provides for the strengthening of Japan's military power with a strike capability and double its defense budget within five years. The strategy also calls for closer cooperation between the military

and the coast guard in any emergency over Taiwan or other possible conflicts.

Chinese Ambassador to Japan Wu Jianghao urged Japan on Friday to stay away from the Taiwan issue, saying it is China's core national interest and "a red line that should not be crossed."

He blamed rising tensions around Taiwan on "foreign

forces that are colluding with Taiwanese independence forces" and said their ultimate goal is to split self-governed Taiwan, which Beijing claims, from China.

A change in the status quo would cause a "catastrophic outcome," he said at a news conference. If Japan takes sides with independence forces, it would lead the Japanese people "into the fire," he said.

The ocean plan also says the capability of Japan's coast guard, which has been on the front line of border disputes, needs to be improved. The coast guard frequently confronts Chinese coast guard vessels approaching Japanese-controlled disputed islands in the East China Sea, North Korean poachers and suspected spy boats, and Russian coast guard vessels near disputed northern islands.

Japan's coast guard is used for civilian policing at sea and not military combat, and the new plans calling for closer cooperation with the Self Defense Force have raised concerns about its role and safety in a possible conflict. □

## Zimbabwe plans to launch digital currency backed by gold

By FARAI MUTSAKA

Associated Press

**HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP)**

— Zimbabwe will launch a digital currency next month by introducing "tokens" that are backed by gold

reserves and can be transferred between people and businesses as a form of payment, the country's central bank said Friday.

The move is aimed at shoring up Zimbabwe's falter-

ing national currency, the Zimbabwe dollar, which is fast depreciating amid yearslong economic woes in the southern African nation.

The Bahamas, Jamaica and Nigeria have already launched digital currencies backed by their central banks, with several other countries, including China, running trial projects. The United Kingdom is moving closer to it by asking for public input on the idea. The U.S. and European Union are considering similar moves.

In Zimbabwe, the new tokens "will be fully backed by physical gold held by the bank" and will go into circulation on May 8, Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe Gov. John Mangudya said. People can buy the tokens

and use them as a way to save their money or conduct "person-to-person and person-to-business transactions and settlements," Mangudya said. People will be able to buy the tokens through banks and make transactions using "e-gold wallets or e-gold cards" held by banks, he said.

Trust in Zimbabwe's currency is desperately low after people in 2008 had their savings wiped out by hyperinflation, which reached 5 billion percent, according to the International Monetary Fund, nearly a world record.

The hyperinflation resulted in the country at one point issuing a 100 trillion Zimbabwe dollars banknote before the government was forced to temporarily scrap

its currency and allow the U.S. dollar to be used as legal tender.

In 2019, the government reintroduced a Zimbabwean currency and banned foreign currencies for local transactions. But few took heed and the black market thrived, while the local currency quickly devalued. The government relented and unbanned the U.S. dollar.

With memories of that disastrous inflation, many people today prefer to seek scarce U.S. dollars on the illegal market to keep at home as savings or for daily transactions, where U.S. currency is still used. Faith in the Zimbabwe dollar is so low that many retailers and even some government institutions don't accept it. □



Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe Governor, John Mangudya holds a sample of a gold coin at the launch in Harare, on July 25, 2022.

Associated Press



## The KLM Aruba Marathon becomes AIMS certified; still has spots for registration for upcoming marathon

(Oranjestad)—The KLM Aruba Marathon has just recently been certified as a qualifying marathon by various international standards, including AIMS, or World Athletics qualification, Boston Qualifier and Abbott World Marathon Majors Wanda Age Group World Championships. Additionally, the marathon organization is holding their annual marathon event in the upcoming summer.



The World Athletics AIMS certificate means that the track has been measured professionally and that the distance is exactly as stated in the certificate—in centimeters. The Association of International Marathons and Distance Races (AIMS) is an association of more than 300 marathon races taking place in 95 countries.

For this event, there is a suitable distance available for

everyone. So far, there are a few past participants who currently hold records. This includes Mr. Juan Valencia from Colombia, who holds the record of 2:48 hours for the marathon event, and John Poray from the US, who holds a record of 1:15 hours for the half-marathon event. Winners receive a gold medal, and celebrations are held afterwards at the beach.

Registration is open until the

organization reaches their limit of 2,500 participants. There are currently 1000 more spots to go before registration closes.

Each participant will receive a personalized start number, online time registration, a prize-winning medal and a complimentary cotton event shirt. The Free KLM Aruba Marathon App including Track & Trace is available at the App store or Google play. The Finisher Running

Shirt & Singlet, the traditional Pasta Party and charity donation are optional during your subscription.

The event takes place on June 3rd and June 4th, 2023, and starts and finishes at Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort.

This beautiful course will show you the best of Aruba. It will take you along the Eagle Beach area, up to Palm Beach and the famous California Lighthouse. Make your "runcation" complete and stay in our Start & Finish Hotel 'Hilton Aruba Caribbean



Resort'.

For more information about the event or to register, please visit the organization's website at [www.klmarubamarathon.com](http://www.klmarubamarathon.com)



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### How it all began

It was 1938 when Mr. Eric Ponson started his journey at General Store. Ponson did not hesitate and decided to buy General Store. Buying a store and thus going from employee to owner of a business with a debt of 11.000 guilders was not an easy task.

As the saying goes: "Behind every successful man, is a strong

woman". In the case of Ponson, this was no different. As General Store progressed and slowly became successful, Mrs. Irene Ponson, came in to assist her husband. Irene Ponson is a visionary, she knew exactly where and how to invest and within a short amount of time in 1970, General Store moved to a better location at the Steenweg. This allowed for a lot more merchandise, products and employees. Supply and demand was as such, that General Store became the number 1 electrical business. Business kept going so well that the location at the Steenweg became too small and was moved later to Dakota Shopping Paradise and later to Pedro Gallego Straat. With this move, an expansion was decided upon and an electronics

store in Savaneta was opened. General Store still being very successful was ready for more growth.

Ricky, Kenneth, Corine and Frans are the fruits of this marriage. Kenneth and Frans however, decided to further develop their father's legacy and continued with their mother's dream to expand the business. An expansion not in square feet only, but in merchandise as well. A great opportunity presented itself when the Ponson family was able to buy a piece of property across from the airport. In 2007 the Ponson family moved into their brand new and huge building

After a successful opening and expansion, Kenneth and Frans who inherited their mother's vision, decided that General Store was ready for yet another expansion. With the support of Mr. Tom Barfell and management of Do it Best in the States, the construction of Do it Center commenced.

Fast forward to today. A Do it Center in Aruba, with more than 50.000 top of the line items for interior as well exterior use, building materials, STO products and a top of the line grocery store. Perseverance, responsibility, vision and the courage to invest have made Ponson's General Store as successful as it is today.

### Super Do It Center Shaba & Groceries

Located in Shaba, Noord. This is the last sibling of the Do It Center family. Here you will be able to find anything you are looking for. The building is divided into several departments from home to hardware to groceries. Everything under one roof.

Groceries? Visit the fully stocked supermarket with fresh fruits and vegetables and high class meat selections. Highly known products and brands are here for you to grab. Every week Do It Center Groceries offers its weekly special on selected items. Weekly specials are very popular and a perfect chance for you to buy your favorite products at a reduced price.

### Need a home makeover?

Do not skip the furniture department "Leenbakker". Here, you will find a divine collection of European furniture, worldwide known for their modern and stylish features for your bedroom, bathroom, living room or kitchen. For your garden they have a wide selection of durable furniture specially made for our tropical climate. Take a walk around and find some treasures. Find the perfect accessory for your house, fitted for your personality and style. Modern, elegant, retro industrial, whatever your style is you will definitely find something for your personal taste.

Do it Center Shaba is open from Monday to Saturday from 8AM to 8PM and on Sunday's from 9AM to 6PM.

For more information go to [www.doit.aw](http://www.doit.aw). ☐



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## Arco Iris Preschool celebrates King's Day with a bike parade!



(Oranjestad)—On Wednesday Morning, the majority of schools across the island celebrate King's Day with different activities. Arco Iris Preschool was not left behind and they decided to celebrate the king's birthday with a bike parade for their students.

Arco Iris has been holding bike parades for many years now, but due to the corona virus pandemic in the last three years, their parade, as well as celebrations for King's Day in general, were all put on hold.

However, seeing as everything is going back to how it was before the pandemic, the preschool decided this year to hit the streets once again and celebrate with their traditional bike parades.

Students with their bikes or kick scooters—decorated with the colors of the royal family and the Netherlands—enjoyed their morning celebrations with color,

ambience and happiness. Every class was assigned a different color that coincided with the colors of the Dutch flag (red, white, blue) and the Royal Family (orange).

More than 120 students hit the streets, with most of them on their bikes. Parents volunteering at the event were also present to watch their children and help the children keep safe on the roads of Aruba. Emergency services were also present, in case of any unfortunate incidents. The parade was guided by the police and roads were blocked off so that the children could enjoy their morning without the dangers of traffic.

The parade started at the preschool and made its way down De La Salle Street and went up Vondellaan in the Downtown area. From there, the parade continued past the National Library and finished back at the preschool. □

**beauty  
& THE  
BEACH**

Aruba Today is delighted to share to its readers a new segment called "Beauty and the Beach", where we take a minute to honor our guests who have decided to spend their vacation on our beautiful and warm island.

In this edition, we'd like to give a shout out to **Krissy, Violet and Catherine from Massachusetts**. They said they came to Aruba for the warm weather. Aruba is always proud to host all families and guests. We at Aruba Today encourage any visitor of the island to send in their pictures and/or messages; who knows? You might get on the cover!

This segment is sponsored by Alhambra Casino and Shops.





## Another Treasure of Aruba's Beaches: Sea Glass!



**NOORD** - It is hard to imagine this happening today, but years ago people dumped all kinds of refuse straight into the ocean, including old cars, and their household garbage, which of course included lots of glass. Over the next 30 years the pounding waves cleaned the beach, by breaking down everything but glass and pottery. The pounding waves washed the trash up and down, back and forth. Tons of polished, broken glass pieces were created by the pounding surf. These smoothened, colored glass particles then settled along the sea shore in millions, and that is why you can find these beautiful and colorful pieces on the north shore beaches of Aruba.

Especially on the strip on white sand between the famous Natural Bridge" and the huge red anchor close to "Grapefield" beach you will be able to find your own pieces of sea glass. The sea glass that was created is the product of a very long and interesting process. It can take anywhere from 10 to 30 years

to make sea glass. The name for any piece of glass that finds its way to the ocean and tumbles around in the water long enough is "Sea glass.

The colorful pieces of glass are being used for decoration, handcrafts and jewelry!

Once glass makes its way into the ocean, the glass is broken up into shards and is tumbled around in the water, where sand and other rocks act like sandpaper to smooth out its rough edges. Sometimes as the sea glass is passed through fire, it becomes fire glass, the rarest of sea glass



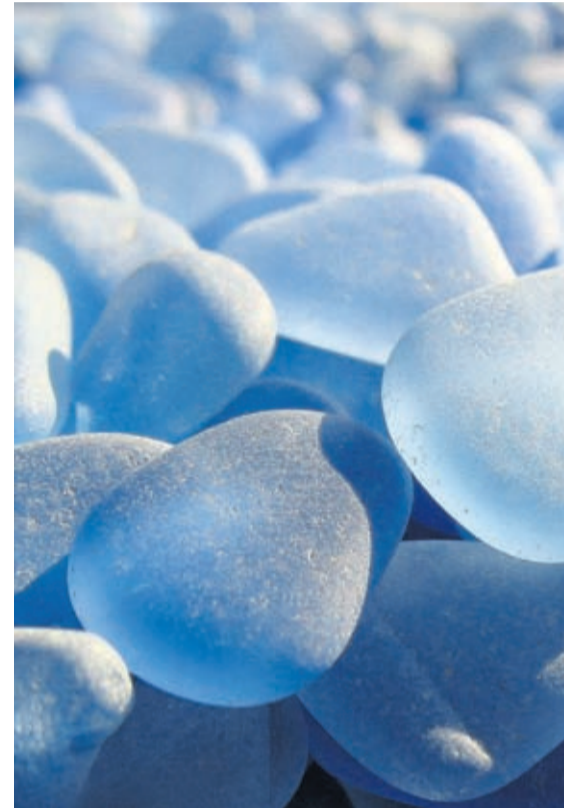
with certain inclusions, just like precious gems.

For years, the water beat against the different kinds of trash being dumped. Glass, household appliances and even motor parts were discarded on the beach. The waves and weather conditions wore down the overwhelming amount of garbage in the water, creating millions of beautiful smooth rocks.

It's hard to believe the short-sighted mistakes we were making that could have potentially ruined these beautiful beaches. But thanks to natural processes, the ocean transformed the trash into the sea glass. Each colored gem on the beach has its own story.

The ruby red glass stones are typically from old car tail-lights.

Then, the sapphire rocks are the remnants of broken apothecary bottles. The most common and the easiest to find are the brown (Amstel & Polar beer), green (Heineken & Balashi beer) and clear glass which are the soft much loved "soft drink" bottles.



If you like to see the sea glass for yourself, and be in awe of the power of nature, rent a car or jeep and go explore our deserted beaches on the north side of the island. Make it a fun family day! Even if we didn't mean to pollute the Beaches how we did, it is inspiring to see just how the earth can correct our mistakes.

Funny, how trash can change into trea-

sure!

Everybody knows that you are not allowed to take local shells home, but the people working at the airport have no problem you taking sea glass home. A few of those pieces make great souvenirs. You can place them in a wine glass or large bottle for decoration and every time you look at it a smile will light up your face thinking back of your unforgettable Aruba vacation! □

# Richard Jacobs: from footballer to international cameraman to multimedia lecturer in Aruba

ORANJESTAD – Richard E. Jacobs Jr. is currently a guest lecturer in multimedia at Ibero American High School. Jacobs has a long and successful trajectory in the world of television; but before entering television, his first love was soccer. In an interview with our reporter, Jacobs tells a bit about his career in soccer and multimedia.

From a young age, because his father played soccer, Jacobs followed in his father's footsteps and began playing soccer too. At a young age he moved to the Netherlands and from that moment continued developing in his sport. Half of his career was in the Netherlands where he played for big teams. Afterwards he came back to Aruba and played in various youth teams and represented Aruba in Santo Domingo, among others.

Jacobs says that during his soccer career he won different individual awards. Among others, he won goalgetter in a championship twice, and was MVP of a championship twice. He also won best striker.

During the 1990s, he was



part of Aruba's national team, representing our island in elimination games for the World Cup in 1994, 1998 and 2002. He was also part of the Aruba team for the Caribbean Championship Shell Cup, and in the year 2000 he was part of the Aruban team that beat the Puerto Rican team 4-2.

Jacobs studied in the electrical sector in Aruba and after finishing his studies in Aruba he moved to the Netherlands to continue studying electronica. During his studies in the Netherlands, Jacobs says, there was a department that would photograph and film here and there, but mostly photograph. He went to experience this, and loved it so much that

he started participating. "I started going deeper into it. For filming, I began when I was 14, filming various activities around Aruba with a big camera. I always liked filming. That's how I started, and as I grew up I gained more experience."

Jacobs worked in TeleAruba, and after that he got the opportunity to work in ATV and at this time he gained a lot of experience in the world of television.

Internationally, he worked at different TV stations and programs. He says that he worked with CNN, Fox, NBC, as cameraman for the Larry King show, and he worked as cameraman also for Nancy Grace at that time.

The transition from television to school happened because his two daughters attended Ibero American High School, and during the years they were enrolled, they realized that he was



doing multimedia work and the school approached him to start teaching in the MultiMedia department in order to introduce the subject to the students. "They found accreditation for this and after six years teaching, this is the only school that is currently giving complete multimedia lessons," Jacobs emphasized.

"You learn everything regarding filming, editing, you learn video editing, and you learn to work with Photoshop, restore images, make posters, you learn everything regarding social media. We also teach the technical aspect a bit of the work of IT", he added.

Finalizing, Jacobs says that what he likes the most about teaching at the school is inspiring the kids, who have an open window to the world of multimedia. "Maybe you are a very creative person, you can do a lot with multimedia and what I like is that when I give an assignment, I want for them to do it the best that they can, better than me. The goal is to push these children to use their creativity and experience the world of multimedia, through which they can express themselves in different ways." □



# CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 40 Flower
  - 1 Coffee girl, often additive
  - 6 Banquet
  - 42 Like some
  - 11 Reddish dye
  - 12 Un-occupied

- DOWN**
- 1 Rhythmic dance
  - 2 React with horror
  - 3 Main dish
  - 4 Erelong
  - 5 Like ogres, in folklore
  - 6 Nourished
  - 7 Moody music
  - 8 Twin of Artemis
  - 9 Flow
  - 10 Holyfield rival
  - 16 Ready for romance
  - 20 Issuing from a source
  - 21 Cardinal cap letters
  - 24 Through
  - 25 Top story
  - 26 Turkey's capital
  - 27 Pavlova's field
  - 28 For each
  - 29 Leased
  - 30 Ticks off
  - 34 Nepal setting
  - 36 Ruin
  - 37 Moose's kin

A	L	P	H	A		C	A	P	E	R
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Yesterday's answer

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13						14				
15						16			17	
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35			36	37		38				
39						40				
4						42				

A X Y D L B A X R  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-29

CRYPTOQUOTE

WIR BMK MOVWVG QUDC M EMU

LMFQ. WIR BMK'C QUDC M

HOMKZ LMFQ. — HIUD

LDBIROC

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: YOU CAN NEVER GET A CUP OF TEA LARGE ENOUGH OR A BOOK LONG ENOUGH TO SUIT ME. — C.S. LEWIS

## Infinite banking has TikTok buzzing, but is it for you?

By KATIA IERVASI of Nerd-Wallet

Scroll through TikTok's finance feed and you'll come across viral videos on "infinite banking." The concept is making a splash on social media, fueled by celebrities like rapper Waka Flocka Flame.

But infinite banking is nothing new. The term was coined by economist Nelson Nash in the 1980s and outlined in his 2000 book, "Becoming Your Own Banker: Unlock the Infinite Banking Concept." The strategy involves tapping into the cash value of certain life insurance policies like whole life and treating it as a personal bank. Nash promoted infinite banking as a path to financial freedom and wealth creation. But it's a little more complicated than Waka Flocka Flame and TikTokkers claim.

### HOW INFINITE BANKING WORKS

Whole life insurance policies usually last your entire life and have a cash value component that grows at a guaranteed rate over time. This rate of return varies among insurers, but it's typically around 5%, Barry Flagg, a chartered life underwriter in Tampa, Florida, and the founder of the life insurance research company Veralytic, said in an email.

Once your policy has accumulated enough cash value, you can begin to take out loans against the funds and that's where the concept of "banking on yourself" comes in.

When you pay your life insurance premium, a portion goes to the policy's cash value component. Infinite banking takes it one step further: Policyholders pour extra money into the cash value to speed up growth. They then treat it as a personal line of credit and borrow against the policy's cash value to pay for large purchases instead of relying on traditional lenders or dipping into savings.



This Wednesday, June 6, 2018, file photo shows U.S. currency in New York. The "infinite banking" movement is trending on TikTok as a way to create wealth.

Associated Press

But cash value life insurance can be complex and pricey, and infinite banking is a nuanced concept. For these reasons, it's best suited to high net worth individuals with a high risk tolerance to match, Flagg says.

### TURNING YOUR POLICY INTO A PERSONAL BANK

This strategy has perks. For example, you don't have to qualify for a cash value loan in the same way you do for traditional loans. The money within cash value policies is liquid, and there's no requirement to repay the loan by a set date or at all. If you don't, though, your insurer will subtract the amount you borrowed from the policy's death benefit, leaving your beneficiaries with a lower payout when you die.

Under infinite banking, the cash value is collateral for the loan and the life insurance policy is tied to it. This means you risk losing your coverage if you don't watch the cash value closely. Insurers charge interest on cash value loans, too.

"If you were truly borrowing

from yourself, you wouldn't be paying yourself interest," says Daphne Jordan, an Austin, Texas-based certified financial planner and wealth adviser at Pioneer Wealth Management Group.

What's more, infinite banking is expensive. For example, a healthy 40-year-old man can expect to pay \$7,028 per year on average for a \$500,000 whole life policy, according to Quotacy, an online life insurance brokerage. In most cases, he'd pay premiums every year for the rest of his life.

The financial obligations don't stop there. Infinite banking only works when policyholders overfund the cash value. For a 40-year-old man in good health, that means contributing money beyond the \$7,028 paid in annual premiums. It's common practice in infinite banking to allocate around 10% of your income to the cash value each month, which is no small commitment.

Another downside of infinite banking is time. □

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## China's Mars rover finds signs of recent water in sand dunes

By MARCIA DUNN

AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla.

(AP) — Water may be more widespread and recent on Mars than previously thought, based on observations of Martian sand dunes by China's rover.

The finding highlights new, potentially fertile areas in the warmer regions of Mars where conditions might be suitable for life to exist, though more study is needed.

Friday's news comes days after mission leaders acknowledged that the Zhurong rover has yet to wake up since going into hibernation for the Martian winter nearly a year ago.

Its solar panels are likely covered with dust, choking off its power source and possibly preventing the rover from operating again, said Zhang Rongqiao, the mission's chief designer. Before Zhurong fell silent, it observed salt-rich dunes with cracks and crusts, which researchers said likely were mixed with melting morning frost or snow as recently as a few hundred thousand years ago.

Their estimated date range for when the cracks and other dune features formed in Mars' Utopia Planitia, a vast plain in the northern hemisphere: sometime after 1.4 million to 400,000 years ago or even younger.

Conditions during that period were similar to now on Mars, with rivers and lakes dried up and no longer flowing as they did billions of years earlier.

Studying the structure and chemical makeup of these dunes can provide insights into "the possibility of water activity" during this period, the Beijing-based team wrote in a study published in Science Advances.

"We think it could be a small amount ... no more than a film of water on the surface," co-author Xiaoguang Qin of the Institute of Geology and Geophysics said in an email.

The rover did not directly detect any water in the form of frost or ice. But Qin



In this April 30, 2021, file image taken by the Mars Perseverance rover and made available by NASA, the Mars Ingenuity helicopter, right, flies over the surface of the planet.

Associated Press

said computer simulations and observations by other spacecraft at Mars indicate that even nowadays at certain times of year, conditions could be suitable for water to appear. What's notable about the study is how young the dunes are, said planetary scientist Frederic Schmidt at the University of Paris-Saclay, who was not part of the study. "This is clearly a new piece of science for this region," he said in an email. Small pockets of water from thawing frost or snow, mixed with salt, likely resulted in the small cracks, hard crusty surfaces, loose particles and other dune features like depressions and ridges, the Chinese scientists said. They ruled out

wind as a cause, as well as frost made of carbon dioxide, which makes up the bulk of Mars' atmosphere. Martian frost has been observed since NASA's 1970s Viking missions, but these light dustings of morning frost were thought to occur in certain locations under specific conditions.

The rover has now provided "evidence that there may be a wider distribution of this process on Mars than previously identified," said Trinity College Dublin's Mary Bourke, an expert in Mars geology. However small this watery niche, it could be important for identifying habitable environments, she added.

Launched in 2020, the six-

wheeled Zhurong named after a fire god in Chinese mythology arrived at Mars in 2021 and spent a year roaming around before going into hibernation last May. The rover operated longer than intended, traveling more than a mile (1,921 meters). □



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Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.  
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668  
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.  
Acc. #23951903  
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

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# Alcaraz survives scare in Madrid opener; Swiatek wins

**MADRID (AP)** — Carlos Alcaraz clenched both fists and roared “Vamos! Vamos! Vamos!” at the packed stands of the Madrid Open.

His war cry of “Let’s go!” in Spanish draws motivation for Alcaraz when he faces difficulty, and revs up his fans. It worked yet again.

The defending champion survived a tougher-than-expected test by 41st-ranked Emil Ruusuvuori in his opening match on Friday.

Alcaraz was on the brink of an early upset before he dug down for a 2-6, 6-4, 6-2 victory over his Finnish opponent.

The Spanish teenager, who turns 20 next week, saved five break points in what turned out to be a critical game to remain level at 3-3 in the second set. In the next game, Alcaraz secured his first break to turn the second-round match in his favor. Alcaraz jokingly apologized to the partisan crowd for the close call.

“It wasn’t just a scare for them, it was (a scare) for me, too,” Alcaraz said. “I am just happy I could get this very difficult win. . . . Maybe people think that I



**Carlos Alcaraz, of Spain, serves against Emil Ruusuvuori, of Finland, during their match at the Madrid Open tennis tournament in Madrid, Spain, Friday, April 28, 2023.**

**Associated Press**

should win easily or not get into trouble in matches, but each match is its own world. It was a very hard match. You just have to stay humble and accept the bad moments as they come and try to turn it around.”

On the women’s side, No. 1 Iga Swiatek eased past Julia Grabher of Austria 6-3, 6-2 after the three-time Grand Slam winner converted three of five break

chances.

Alcaraz, ranked No. 2, arrived from successfully defending his Barcelona Open title last weekend and with a chance to move closer to reclaiming the top spot in the world ranking from Novak Djokovic who, like Rafael Nadal, is out with injury.

Ruusuvuori beat Alcaraz on the hard court of Miami in 2021. Alcaraz won that tournament in Florida

a year later before also conquering Barcelona and Madrid during a remarkable season that culminated in his U.S. Open victory. But Ruusuvuori was not expected to give Alcaraz such a tough test on the Madrid clay.

The result was still in doubt until Ruusuvuori sent his backhand into the net and ceded his first service game of the third set. Alcaraz poured it on to increase his

advantage.

“It was really tough. I would say I was about to lose,” Alcaraz said. “It was just one point. One of the break points he had at 2-3 in the second set was like a match point for him. Emil played unbelievably. I am really, really happy to get through that.” Alcaraz will next face Grigor Dimitrov after he beat Gregoire Barrere 6-0, 5-7, 6-3.

Also, third-seeded Casper Ruud lost to Italian qualifier Matteo Arnaldi 6-3, 6-4.

Fifth-seeded Andrey Rublev advanced after seeing off Stan Wawrinka 7-5, 6-4 as the Monte Carlo winner improved to 9-1 on clay this year.

Swiatek will meet Bernarda Pera after the American was a 6-1, 6-3 winner over Tatjana Maria.

Third-seeded Jessica Pegula, who was a finalist in Madrid last year, got past Polish qualifier Magdalena Frech 7-6 (5), 6-3.

Seventh-seeded Elena Rybakina, the Wimbledon champion, was ousted by Anna Kalinskaya 7-5, 4-6, 6-2, while American Alycia Parks beat Victoria Azarenka 6-2, 7-6 (5). □

## Horse racing’s antidoping rules to start in mid-May

**By BETH HARRIS**  
**AP Racing Writer**

Horse racing’s new antidoping program won’t get underway until after the

Kentucky Derby and Preakness in mid-May, according to an order issued Thursday by the Federal Trade Commission.



**In a photo provided by Benoit Photo, Stirling Racing’s Whatmakessammyrun and Joe Bravo, left, hold off Air Force Red and Juan Hernandez to win the \$100,000 Siren Lure Stakes, Sunday, April 23, 2023 at Santa Anita Park in Arcadia, Calif.**

**Associated Press**

The FTC, which oversees the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority, pushed back the new Anti-Doping and Medication Control program by three weeks until May 22. HISA had planned to re-launch the program on May 1, the start of Kentucky Derby week, after a judge’s ruling in early April delayed the start until then.

“I share the concerns that the FTC articulated in their order,” Lisa Lazarus, CEO of HISA, told The Associated Press by phone.

If the program had started on May 1, pre-race drug testing for the Kentucky Derby would have been conducted under Kentucky Horse Racing Commission rules and state laboratory standards, while

post-race testing would have been done under HISA’s new rules. “To break it up like that is very unfair to horsemen, especially considering it’s the most high-profile race of the year,” Lazarus told the AP. “It’s more important that the critical thinking be put into the right time to bring it back.”

The Derby will be run May 6 in Louisville. The Preakness is May 20 in Baltimore.

HISA first began the ADMC program, which covers rules for drug testing, drug sampling, out-of-competition testing, rulings, and penalties, on March 27.

“The very first week of March 27 was very successful and went smoothly,” Lazarus said. But a few days later a judge ruled that

the program could not be implemented without a 30-day waiting period in a decision that was a victory for the National Horsemen’s Benevolent and Protective Association, which has pushed back against HISA. The HBPA and other groups have filed multiple lawsuits challenging the constitutionality of HISA.

The FTC ruling said the May 22 re-start would “avoid the chaos and confusion that could occur if the antidoping rule became effective on May 1, during the lead-up to the Triple Crown races scheduled during May.” It also said the delay would “ensure that the horseracing industry has sufficient time to prepare for the anti-doping rule to be effective.” □

# Jimmy Butler does things his way, leads Heat into 2nd round

By TIM REYNOLDS

AP Basketball Writer

MIAMI (AP) — Jimmy Butler is different.

Some players hit beaches over All-Star break; Butler went to Argentina to watch tennis and learn about coffee. Some players rest with one day off between games; Butler spent 10 hours flying round-trip to be at Pau Gasol's Los Angeles Lakers jersey retirement one night and back in Miami for shootaround the next morning. Some Miami teammates jumped around the locker room to celebrate after eliminating top-seeded Milwaukee; Butler simply watched while sipping a drink.

He does things his way, which is not a bad thing and the results prove it. Butler has led Miami to the Eastern Conference semifinals for the third time in his four seasons with the Heat; this year, a matchup with the New York Knicks awaits, starting Sunday.

"He puts his soul into competing," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "When you put that much physical, mental, emotional and spiritual energy into that will to win, that is so unique. You have to be able to recharge your batteries to gear up and do that over and over and over again. If you don't, you'll burn out. And I think him being able to get away and clear his headspace has been one of the most productive



Miami Heat forward Jimmy Butler (22) celebrates after scoring during the second half of Game 4 in a first-round NBA basketball playoff series against the Milwaukee Bucks, Monday, April 24, 2023, in Miami.

things for him."

A championship is what lured Butler to Miami, and it's all that matters to him now. A revival of the Heat-Knicks playoff rivalry that was born a generation ago? He doesn't care. The outside world's opinions or predictions? He immediately dismisses them. Facing his former coach Tom Thibodeau in this series? He thinks that's irrelevant.

"I know what he's about. He knows what we're about," Thibodeau, the Knicks coach who had Butler on his teams in Chicago and Minnesota, said Friday. "So, let's go."

It doesn't take long to figure out what Butler is about. He plays hard, demands others do the same and makes it worthwhile.

"Jimmy's just a talented player," guard Kyle Lowry said. "I think Jimmy goes out there and, every assignment that the other team gives him, he tries to take that personally. ... I'm rolling with Jimmy at all times." Added center Bam Adebayo: "I'm just thankful that he's on my team."

It would be inaccurate to say that the regular season doesn't matter to Butler. It would not be inaccurate to say that the postseason

matters more.

Case in point: He has scored at least 40 points in a game eight times since joining the Heat and all eight of those performances came in the playoffs, including two in the series against Milwaukee, the first a 56-point masterpiece in Game 4 and the other a 42-point effort in the clinching Game 5.

Social media lit up when Butler was putting on his show in Game 5.

"Let's stop faking on 22. Bro really like dat!" injured Heat guard Victor Oladipo wrote, referring to Butler by his jersey number.

"Somebody said Jimmy Butler averaged my age!!" wrote Golden State's Andre Iguodala, a former teammate in Miami. (Almost true; Iguodala is 39.)

"Himmy Butler lol," wrote Portland's Damian Lillard. Butler doesn't like the notion that he becomes "Playoff Jimmy," but it's tough to argue otherwise. He averaged 22.9 points per game in the regular season and averaged 37.6 points in Round 1 against the Bucks, the highest average of anyone so far in these playoffs.

"My teammates keep telling me to shoot the ball, shoot the ball more, attack," Butler said. "That's just what it was. No matter what, if I'm scoring, if I'm passing, defending, rebounding, whatever it may be, we've just got to win at all costs." The world sees the highlights of Butler pointing at a scoreboard and telling Milwaukee's Jrue Holiday what he's doing to him that happened in Game 5 of Round 1 but the world doesn't see the highlights of Butler tormenting his close-knit inner circle. If they get on the basketball court with him, that obviously doesn't work out well for them. When they play dominoes or card games, good luck. He famously wouldn't even give teammates a discount when he was selling \$20-a-cup coffee at the NBA's restart bubble in 2020. □

## Biden awards football trophy to Air Force Academy

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden on Friday awarded the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy to the Air Force Academy for winning football games against its rival U.S. service academies.

"Simply put, you can't talk about the soul of the nation without talking about our service academies," Biden told the team gathered in the White House's East Room. "And you can't talk about the service academies without talking about duty, teamwork, service and excellence. That's all about you."

Air Force beat both the U.S. Military Acad-

emy and the U.S. Naval Academy during last year's collegiate football season, compiling an overall record of 10-3. It also beat Baylor University 30-15 in the Armed Forces Bowl, which Biden said was the coldest bowl game in history at 11 degrees.

The Air Force Falcons have won the trophy 21 times, compared with 16 for the Navy Midshipmen and 9 for the Army Knights.

The competition among the service academies began in 1972. The trophy topped by three silver footballs weighs 170 pounds. "That trophy is bigger than the Super Bowl trophy," Biden said. "No, it really is. So, you may need help carrying it." □



Air Force quarterback Haaziq Daniels, left, and Air Force running back Brad Roberts, right, present President Joe Biden with a jersey during the presentation of the Commander-in-Chief's trophy to the Air Force Academy in the East Room of the White House, Friday, April 28, 2023, in Washington.

Associated Press

# Weekly SPECIALS

<div><div>WAS \$3.97</div><div></div><div>Per KG</div><div>\$2.85</div><div>Tomato Plum</div></div>	<div><div>WAS \$9.77</div><div></div><div>Per KG</div><div>\$7.42</div><div>BBQ/Grill Chicken Sate</div></div>	<div><div>WAS \$3.71</div><div></div><div>Per KG</div><div>\$3.14</div><div>Peppers Green</div></div>	<div><div>WAS \$10.34</div><div></div><div>Per KG</div><div>\$7.99</div><div>U.S. Pork Cutlets</div></div>	
<div><div>WAS \$2.22</div><div></div><div>Per KG</div><div>\$1.88</div><div>Carrots Jumbo</div></div>	<div><div>WAS \$8.66</div><div></div><div>Per KG</div><div>\$6.28</div><div>Sla-Vinken</div></div>	<div><div>WAS \$1.65</div><div></div><div>Per KG</div><div>\$1.77</div><div>Cabbage Green USA</div></div>	<div><div>WAS \$7.71</div><div></div><div>Per Bag</div><div>\$6.39</div><div>Oranges Navel 4lbs</div></div>	<div><div>WAS \$2.05</div><div></div><div>Each</div><div>\$1.71</div><div>EE Ketchup 24oz</div></div>
<div><div>WAS \$2.72</div><div></div><div>Each</div><div>\$2.43</div><div>Melkan Volle Melk Houdbare 1L</div></div>	<div><div>WAS \$7.88</div><div></div><div>Each</div><div>\$7.02</div><div>Kelloggs Rice Krispies Cereal 12oz</div></div>	<div><div>WAS \$5.77</div><div></div><div>Each</div><div>\$4.97</div><div>Caprisun Springwater Multivitamin 10pk 200ml</div></div>	<div><div>WAS \$2.39</div><div></div><div>Each</div><div>\$2.17</div><div>Hak Zwarte bonen Pak 225gr</div></div>	<div><div>WAS \$1.73</div><div></div><div>Each</div><div>\$1.48</div><div>SV Distilled White Vinegar 32oz</div></div>
<div><div>WAS \$3.88</div><div></div><div>Each</div><div>\$3.02</div><div>Almond Breeze Chocolate Milk 32oz</div></div> <div><div>WAS \$7.99</div><div></div><div>Each</div><div>\$7.25</div><div>EE Waffle Homestyle/Buttermilk 24ct</div></div>	<div><div>WAS \$22.85</div><div></div><div>Each</div><div>\$16.74</div><div>Westinghouse 4Pc Facial Beauty Set</div></div> <div><div>WAS \$11.54</div><div></div><div>Each</div><div>\$8.57</div><div>Container with Lid 500ml 25pk</div></div>	<div><div>WAS \$1.77</div><div></div><div>100 GR</div><div>\$1.42</div><div>American White Cheese</div></div> <div><div>WAS \$2.34</div><div></div><div>100 GR</div><div>\$1.77</div><div>Oven Roasted Smoked Chicken Breast</div></div>		

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